(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether methodologies for forecasting plant diseases epidemics are being developed ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Evoluation of tolerant/resistant crop varieties integrated pest management ensuring availability of fungicides, enforcing qurantine-regulations and strengthening extension efforts are the major steps taken by the Government to control plant diseases.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Methodologies have been developed for forescasting onset of plant diseases and their epidemics by interpretation of epidemiological data in conjuction with significant environmental factors like temperature humidity, rainfall, sun shine cloudiness, etc. Air borne diseases like rusts of wheat are monitored by trap nurseries, spore traps and by mobile surveys. For other kind of diseases whether parameters are used for developing prognistic models.

Pending Report of the Institution etc. under Ministry of Agriculture

1397. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Institutes, Commodity/ Statutory Boards etc. under the Ministry of Agriculture who have not so far brought out their Annual Reports for the year 1987-88 and reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ;

(b) whether Government would make it obligatory that all the projects/Units produce factual reports which may be made available easily and speedily on cost to students/ teachers and others interests, unless these are banned/restricted on account of National Security; and

(c) whether Government would also ensure that such reports are put in atleast one designated library in each State for reference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Support prices for potato, onion and coconut

1398. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of coconut, potato and onion have crashed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are considering for providing support price to these produces; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:) (a) and (b) During the year 1988-89, on account of substantial increase in production, the wholesale prices of coconut, onion and potatoes have come down from the high levels that prevailed in 1987-88.